

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-54 (Canceled)

55. (Currently Amended) A building material, comprising:

a first component, wherein the first component comprises a pre-formed fiber cement layer ~~that is reinforced with fibers~~ having a density of between about 53 to 115 lb/ft³; and

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of one of the components forms interpenetrating mechanical and chemical bonding with the other components;

~~wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer is capable of retaining a substantially planar configuration prior to being positioned adjacent the second component, wherein the pre-formed fiber cement layer remains flexible for a period of time after been positioned adjacent the second component.~~

56. (Previously Presented) The building material of Claim 55, wherein the first component is reinforced with individualized cellulose fibers, wherein at least a substantial portion of the lignin components are removed from the fiber cell walls.

57. (Previously Presented) The building material of Claim 55, wherein the thickness of the first component is less than about 3/16 inch.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Presented) The building material of Claim 55, wherein the density of the first component is higher than the density of the second component.

60. (New) A building material, comprising:

a first component wherein the first component comprises a pre-formed fiber cement layer comprising about 5-12 wt.% fiber; and

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of one of the components is bonded to the other component.

61. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the second component is made of a curable material.

62. (New) The building material of Claim 61, wherein at least a portion of the second component penetrates the pre-formed fiber cement layer so as to form mechanical and chemical bonding therebetween.

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#4 63. (New) The building material of Claim 61, wherein at least a portion of the second component extends into the capillary network of the pre-formed fiber cement layer so as to reduce the permeability of the pre-formed fiber cement layer.

#7 64. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the second component is fiber reinforced.

#9 65. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein one of the components at least partially surrounds the other component.

#10 66. (New) The building material of Claim 60, further comprising a third component provided adjacent said first component such that the first component is located between the second component and the third component.

#11 67. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the fibers of the first component have a substantially planar orientation.

#13 68. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the fibers of the first component are oriented substantially parallel to a surface of the first component.

#15 69. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the fibers contained in the first component are selected from the group consisting of natural inorganic fibers, synthetic fibers, engineered fibers, cellulose fibers, and combinations thereof.

#19 70. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the second component is a fire resistive material.

#20 71. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the fiber cement of the first component is pressed.

#23 72. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the fiber cement of the first component is embossed.

#24 73. (New) The building material of Claim 60, further comprising a sub layer between the first component and the second component to improve bonding therebetween.

#25 74. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the second component is a lightweight core having a first side and a second side, and the first component is a pre-formed fiber cement facing on at least the first side of the core.

#27 75. (New) The building material of Claim 74, wherein the fiber cement facing wraps around both the first side and the second side of the core.

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76. (New) The building material of Claim 74, wherein the core is open.
77. (New) The building material of Claim 74, wherein the core is homogeneous.
78. (New) The building material of Claim 76, wherein the core has a honeycomb configuration.
79. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the building material is a single plank.
80. (New) The building material of Claim 60, wherein the building material is a trim board.

81. (New) A building material, comprising:

at least a first component and a second component provided adjacent said first component, wherein the second component comprises a lightweight core having a first side and a second side, and the first component comprises a pre-formed fiber cement facing on at least the first side of the core, wherein the core includes a plurality of vertical symmetrically opposed corrugated core layers.

82. (New) A building material, comprising:

a first component comprising a fiber cement material; and

a second component positioned adjacent the first component, wherein at least a portion of the second component extends into the first component to form mechanical bonding with the first component, wherein the first component does not extend into the second component.

83. (New) The building material of Claim 82, wherein the second component comprises a curable material.

84. (New) The building material of Claim 83, wherein the density of the second component is less than the density of the first component.

85. (New) The building material of Claim 82, wherein the first component comprises about 5-12 wt.% cellulose fibers.